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January 30, 2001

FDA Commissioner Jane Henney  
Dockets Management Branch (HFA 305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fisher, s Lane, room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Commissioner Henney,

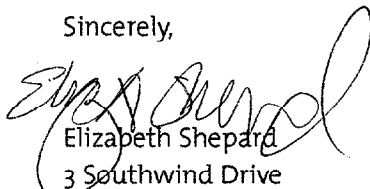
The proposed Food and Drug Administration regulations will fail to require labels or safety tests on genetically engineered food.

- These new rules will deny Americans the right to know whether the food we buy is genetically engineered.
- These new rules will strengthen the economic interests of biotech corporations.

Labeling genetically engineered foods could protect the public from potential health effects that may be traced to these foods. By not requiring both labeling and mandatory safety testing of genetically engineered foods, the FDA puts all consumer's health at risk, and more importantly, ignores the recommendations of the Biotechnology Consultative Forum, which, in December, urged the US to require such labeling.

Please reconsider your decision and make it mandatory that genetically engineered foods be subject to both pre-market testing and clear labeling. Americans have a right to make informed decisions about the food we consume.

Sincerely,

  
Elizabeth Shepard  
3 Southwind Drive  
Burlington, VT 05401

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